

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

a plurality of variable display devices ~~for variably displaying~~ configured to variably display various symbols in response to a start operation;

a stop control device ~~for performing~~ configured to perform stop control of the plurality of variable display devices in response to a stop operation via a plurality of stop buttons, each of the stop buttons corresponding to each of the plurality of variable display devices;

a lottery device ~~for executing~~ configured to execute a lottery of a prize-winning combination and selecting one stop order from a plurality of stop orders in a stop order table;

a lottery outcome device ~~for entering~~ configured to enter a selected stop order associated with the ~~price-winning~~ prize-winning combination;

a determining device ~~for determining~~ configured to determine whether or not the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order;

a shielding device ~~for shielding~~ configured to shield the plurality of variable display devices, the shielding device being disposed in front of the variable display devices; and

an attraction display device ~~for displaying~~ configured to display an attraction image among predetermined attraction images, the attraction display device being disposed in front of the shielding device;

wherein the shielding device shields other variable display devices other than one variable display device to be ~~firstly~~ firstly stopped, and the attraction display device displays one attraction image,

wherein, when the determining device determines that the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order, the shielding device shields other variable display devices other than another display device to be subsequently

stopped, and the attraction display device displays another attraction image, ~~when the determining device determines that the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order, and~~

wherein, when the determining device determines that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order, the shielding device shields the ~~whole entirety of the~~ variable display devices, and the attraction display device displays ~~other-an erroneous~~ attraction images, ~~when the determining device determines that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order~~ image notifying a player that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order as selected from the stop order table by the lottery device.

18. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 17, wherein the transmissive state is at least one of a semi-transmissive state and a colored state.

19. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 18, wherein the shielding device comprises an electronic shutter.

20. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 19, wherein the electronic shutter is composed of a liquid crystal film switchable between the transmissive state and the shielding state by way of an applied voltage.

21. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to Claim 17, further comprising:

a special games control device ~~for providing~~ configured to provide a special games state under a predetermined condition, wherein the attraction control device controls the shielding device during the special gaming state.

22. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to Claim 17, wherein:

the shielding device shields other variable ~~display~~ display devices than the variable display devices of the prize-winning combination and the attraction display device displays other images, when the stop control device has stopped all of the variable display devices.

23. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine controller for controlling a gaming machine that includes a plurality of variable display devices and an attraction display device, the gaming machine controller comprising:

(a) ~~means a device~~ for displaying various symbols on the plurality of variable display devices, in response to a start operation;

(b) ~~means a device~~ for performing stop control of the plurality of variable display devices, in response to a stop operation;

(c) ~~means a device~~ for executing a lottery of a prize-winning combination and executing one of the entries of a stop order table;

(d) ~~means a device~~ for designating a correct order associated with the prize-winning combination, in accordance with the entry from the stop order table;

(e) ~~means a device~~ for determining whether the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order;

(f) ~~means a device~~ for shielding the plurality of variable display devices; and

(g) ~~means a device~~ for displaying an attraction image among predetermined attraction images on the attraction display device;

wherein, when the device for determining whether the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order determines that the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order, other variable display devices other than one variable display device to be firstly stopped is shielded by the means for shielding the plurality of variable display devices and a first attraction image is displayed on the ~~means device~~ for displaying the attraction image in accordance with the designation of the correct order, and subsequently

wherein other variable display devices other than one display device to be subsequently stopped is shielded ~~means by the device~~ for shielding the plurality of variable display devices and a second attraction image is displayed by the ~~means device~~ for displaying the attraction image in accordance with the determination that the order of the stop control has been performed in the correct order, and

wherein, when the determining device determines that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order, the ~~whole entirety of the~~ variable display devices are shielded by the ~~means device~~ for shielding the plurality of variable display devices and a third attraction image is displayed on the ~~means device~~ for displaying an attraction image ~~in accordance with the determination that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order~~ notifying a player that the order of the stop control has not been performed in the correct order as designated by the device for designating the correct order associated with the prize-winning combination.

24. (New) The gaming machine according to Claim 17, further comprising cold cathode-ray tubes provided at the upper and lower parts at the inner surface side of the panel display device.

25. (New) The gaming machine according to Claim 23, further comprising cold cathode-ray tubes provided at the upper and lower parts at the inner surface side of the panel display device.